

## The Alma Record.

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C. F. BROWN, Editor and Prop.

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## A PROCLAMATION

The observance of Arbor Day dates back more than half a century, and from the beginning it has had a civic motive and a patriotic association. This year, more than ever before, we have reason to give the day a patriotic setting. The great world war is over. Our soldiers and sailors and marines most nobly bore their part in the struggle. Many of them made the supreme sacrifice. Costly monuments will arise to commemorate their deeds, but meanwhile we can perpetuate their memories in familiar places. It has been happily suggested that we should adorn our yards, our waysides and our parks with young trees, each named for some one of Michigan's fallen sons.

It has been further suggested that in every city and village and township a Victory Elm should be planted to commemorate the great triumph of Freedom and Democracy.

It is fitting too that I should at this time call attention to the fact that Act number fifty-nine of the Public Acts of 1919 makes it unlawful for any one to keep upon his premises mania bushes, or any variety of barberry bush which harbors and spreads the black rust of wheat and other grains. I therefore, recommend that these noxious shrubs be dug up and destroyed and their places given to harmless ornamental shrubs.

Therefore, I, Albert E. Sleeper, Governor of the State of Michigan, do hereby designate and set aside

Friday, May Second, 1919, as Arbor Day  
 and I request that trees be planted as indicated above, in memory of our heroic dead.  
 I particularly request too that in all Michigan schools appropriate Arbor Day exercises be held, following, so far as practicable, the community program outlined by Mrs. Clara H. Stockman in Moderator-Tenets of April 16, 1919.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State this seventeenth day of April, in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and nineteen, and of the Commonwealth the eighty-third.

Albert E. Sleeper, Governor  
 Coleman C. Vaughn, Secretary of State

## THE NEW MILLERVILLE

A new Millerville has been uncovered in Alma, situated only a short distance from some of Alma's finest residences on Michigan avenue, but if such a thing is possible, its life has to be of short duration, as the local health board and the state board of health have been asked to go into conditions there.

It should be condemned, as health conditions there can be nothing less than poor. Houses are huddled closely together, on small lots, which make for insufficient play-ground for the many youngsters of the neighborhood. And it should be borne in mind that, according to reports, there are over forty out-houses in one small block, in small yards, around which these youngsters must play, and do play, as was evidenced by a personal visit to this district Monday.

It is understood that purchasers of houses on lots in this "Millerville" were given to understand that they could have city water and sewage. It may be that it cannot be done on any street or alley owned by the city. These few houses are not on any public highway and as conditions now stand could never acquire these city conveniences.

The fact that two of these houses are not on any street is perhaps due to the fact that the original plat was accepted by the city without a demand being made that Hickory street be continued clear through the block, instead of being a blind street. A council of past years is responsible to this extent.

For the other houses which have no outlet to the public highway or even a public alley only J. L. Miller, the builder is responsible.

Something must be done to make sure that conditions such as these cannot be longer continued in Alma. Conditions such as these demand that a thorough study of any addition or subdivision be made before the plats are accepted by the city in the future. Study of such possibilities will have much to do with determining the future of the city.

Something is certain to be done in regard to the present condition. The local and state boards of health have been appealed to for action. A condition has been brought about, which Alma cannot countenance, and care must be taken that no opportunity is left open for a thing such as this to take place again in the future.

## THE NEW COMMISSION

The new commission has come into being, and Charles R. Murphy is Alma's first mayor under the commission form of government. The commission will not, however, meet until next Tuesday night.

With the election out of the way, the people of Alma are now wondering how the new experiment will turn out, because it is a new thing for Alma, this commission form of government. They are wondering who will fill the appointive offices. They are wondering what the commission intends to do about some of the muds that the city has on its hands, notably the present condition of the sewage matter here, and the water system.

It is not surprising that they wonder.

It will not be surprising if some of the people of the city are disappointed in the matter of appointments to office. That would be natural. It would not be surprising if some imagined that the city commission should clean up the sewage and water tangles in a month or six weeks. The Record would ask that the citizens of Alma refrain from criticizing the mayor and the commission on appointments until the appointees have had an opportunity at least to demonstrate their ability, and not to become too critical if some of the city affairs do not clean up in a month or six weeks.

The commission is going into office with some big problems confronting it; problems which have much to do with the future growth of the city, some of which are probably holding up home building here to some extent. The commission is going into office with some of the city funds depleted.

It is going into office facing one of the biggest jobs that any administration has ever faced.

Time must be given to work these problems out, in order that mistakes may not be made to further hold up some of the important, and much needed municipal improvements.

The Record believes that the men elected to office this spring are capable enough to solve these problems, if given a fair opportunity, to which they are justly entitled.

## CLEANUP WEEK

The week of May 12 to 19 is "clean up week" in Michigan, and in this city it promises to be clean up, paint up and flower up week, during which time the residents of Alma are to be asked to clear away the refuse of the winter months, paint up the unsightly structures and to aid in beautifying the city by planting flowers and shrubs.

A special committee of the Circle club of the Republic Motor Truck Company Inc. of this city, is backing the clean-up paint up and flower up campaign in Alma, and has already a large number of posters in prominent places around the city, urging this move.

It is expected also that Mayor Charles R. Murphy will, within the next few days, issue a proclamation for a clean up, paint up and flower up week, from May 12 to 19.

A little effort on the part of the citizens of Alma used to this end will make Alma a cleaner, prettier and a better place in which to live.

Just bear in mind the week of May 12 to 19, and clean up, paint up and flower up. Do your part towards making Alma a better city.

## Patriotic Address

The Wild Onion school reached its centennial anniversary on the night of May 1st, 1919. In the course of his remarks he paid a glowing tribute to our country, and it is regretted that everybody in the United States were not present. True reason we keep so far apart of the other nations, said he is because we are getting into and going to war every morning while the folks abroad, the other side of the world are just going to bed.—Hogswallow Kentuckian.

## Weather Forecasts

United States weather forecasts are based on the general study of types of weather combined with the study of the series of the daily weather maps for a few days immediately preceding the period for which predictions are to be made. No forecast of weather is made for a period in advance longer than is warranted by the rapidity of atmospheric changes at that time. Many a man's confidence in weather predictions, but they are not taken seriously.

## Even Used to Run Away

That even the early horseless carriage retained at least one characteristic of its honorable predecessor, the horse, is evinced by the following item written in 1900: "The claim advanced by the early pioneers that an automobile could not run away like a horse is being disproved by actual experience. Accounts of automobile run-aways are not infrequent in the daily press."—Chevrolet Review.

## Wyoming Led All States

Women acted as jurors in America almost half a century ago. The first grand jury which included members of the "weaker" sex was impaneled at Laramie, Wyo., 48 years ago. The territory of Wyoming was organized in 1890 out of part of Dakota, Utah, Idaho, and one of the first official acts of the new territorial government was to grant women the right to vote and hold office.

## No Drawback

The best story accredited to Sir Aston Webb, president of the British Royal Academy, concerns a politician. "I wonder what he'll do now?" said one. "What's the matter with him?" "He's lost his reason," replied the other. "Oh, that won't matter so long as he retains his voice!" was the retort.

## The Object of a Tax

Drawing up a tax bill that will satisfy everybody seems to be an awful lot on the mental capacity of its author.

## LAYMAN STARTS CENTENARY PLAN

WORLD MOVEMENT IS CONCEIVED AT MEETING OF WORKERS.

DR. S. EARL TAYLOR ORIGINATOR

Methodist Centenary's Executive Secretary Says Church is Awakening to Full Realization of Its Great Mission.

One hundred laymen of the Methodist Episcopal Church met about a year ago at Niagara Falls. One of their number, Dr. S. Earl Taylor, of New York, repeated a speech he had made four years ago. The first time he was politely "set upon." When the other 99 had heard him at Niagara Falls he was acclaimed as the man who would change the religious system of the world.

As a result of this speech hundreds of thousands of persons in every part of the world.



DR. S. EARL TAYLOR

of the entire world are at work now preparing for the \$100,000,000 financial campaign of the Methodist Missionary Centenary which is to be conducted during the week of May 18. Dr. Taylor is the father of the Centenary movement which is hailed as the great force by which the world is to be rebuilt physically and morally.

Dr. Taylor, while a graduate from a divinity school, is not a minister. He refused ordination. He wanted to become a lay missionary, but, owing to illness in his family, he could not go abroad and he has been spending his time working for the church in America for years.

"I have always believed in the great mission of the Christian Church," said Dr. Taylor, "and I was asked to tell the whole world of a knowledge of Jesus. So far, it has not been admitted, the church has not carried out its mission. But today we have more reason than ever to have faith in the church. The church is awakening. It is beginning to realize its mission."

Dr. Taylor is the executive secretary of the Joint Centenary Committee. It was he who organized the world survey by which it was determined \$100,000,000 must be spent by Methodism in the next five years to carry out the world-wide Centenary program.

## STATE TO BENEFIT BY CENTENARY FUND

Rural Michigan and Upper Peninsula Will Be Given Great Social Service By Methodists.

In the Methodist Centenary fund of \$100,000,000 to be raised by the church during the week of May 18, the Detroit area, which includes Michigan, will be one of the big beneficiaries. Hundreds of projects are provided for in the Centenary program of home missions and church extension. In this state, forty million dollars of the total fund will be spent in the United States to further the service of the church.

This extensive program includes projects from Calumet to the southern boundary of the state. An extraordinary program has been laid out for work among the polyglot communities in the mining and lumbering sections of the northern peninsula. The survey taken by the church to ascertain the field which must be covered, shows there is a tremendous work in these vicinities which logically belongs to the Methodist church.

Rural Michigan will see the institution of innumerable improvements in the equipment of the country churches. This phase of the Centenary is one of its great features. The survey shows that the churches in many of the rural communities of this state, have not been able to perform their duty because of inadequate facilities.

Improvements throughout the state which will require an expenditure of approximately \$2,500,000, are included in the program.

## Sometimes Wise to Forget

We forget what we ought to remember and remember what we ought to forget. We need weapons of memory. Say you need a book of forgetters, even.

## Tea Blending Practical Monopoly

The business of tea blending is peculiarly British. For 100 years Ming lung tea has blended ten for the whole world and brought the work into the region of an exact science.

## Great Alexander

Alexander Bell was the great American who invented the telephone, which is still called the Bell telephone; and Alexander Humboldt was a German traveler, statesman and the most distinguished naturalist of all times. One of his most important discoveries was the decrease in intensity of the earth's magnetic force from the pole to the equator. His most important book, "Kosmos," was written in his seventy-fifth year. He did much in his long life to further the science of the world.

## When Love Comes

As long as you don't love anybody much, your character is like a garden in winter, one virtue is under a glass shade, and another is covered over with straw, and all of them are dreadfully pinched and sickly. Then love comes by and it is summer and your garden rejoices and blossoms like the rose without your bothering about it at all.—Ellen Thorneycroft Fowler.

## Chinese Tea Houses

Just as England has highway taverns and as we have roadhouses along our highways, so has China her tea houses. The Chinese do not indulge much in intoxicants, and tea is about the strongest drink they consume. Tea houses there are about as numerous as ice cream and soda resorts are here.

## Pile Trouble on Trouble

Never hear more than one kind of trouble at a time. Some people hear three—all they have now, all they ever had and all they ever expect to have.—Anon.

## Thoughtful Printer

The bishop remarked that somebody had a blank, expressionless face and the thoughtful printer rendered it "a—expressionless face."

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# VERDICT \$4,075 Automobile Damage Suit

Kalamazoo, Mich., April 2, 1919.  
 In the circuit court today the jury rendered a verdict of \$4,075 against J. Allen Snyder to recover for injuries sustained by Frederick Ellthoven as a result of an automobile accident in which it is claimed that Frederick Ellthoven has suffered injuries of a serious nature. J. Allen Snyder was insured in one of the small insurance companies which gave him protection for \$500 for liability and he will have to pay the amount of \$3,575.

As a result of this verdict automobile owners are much interested in the policy of insurance they take. The Big Mutual Automobile Insurance Company of Howell protects the owner of the car against damage claims made against his car up to \$25,000. During the five seasons that the company has been operating its member has had to pay to exceed \$24 upon a claim, as the policy has been sufficient to take care of large claims.

Automobile salesmen are taking more interest in insurance and are recommending the Citizens Mutual Automobile Insurance Company of Howell, as it has a large reserve fund of \$5,000,000 and monthly income sufficient to pay \$15,000 of claims per month.

This is the only mutual that has so large a reserve fund to meet the claims.

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